

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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I-405 PROGRAM DRAFT EIS ISSUED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT Help Determine I-405's Future

The I-405 Corridor Program has issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the alternative solutions developed to address mobility and traffic congestion in the I-405 corridor. The EIS allows the public and agencies to examine the impacts of different types of solutions being considered by the program's committees.

Three public hearings have been scheduled for the public to learn more about the EIS findings, the alternatives being evaluated and to provide comments. Public open houses will precede each hearing from 5 – 7 p.m.

Sept. 18, 7-9 p.m. September 19, 7-9 p.m. September 20, 7-9 p.m.

Northshore Senior Center 10201 E. Riverside Drive Bothell, WA 98011 Renton Senior Center 211 Burnett Avenue N. Renton, WA 98055 Bellevue Regional Library 1111 110th Ave. NE Bellevue, WA 98004

Additional Opportunities to Get Involved

Copies of the Draft EIS are available for review at public libraries in the I-405 corridor. Call WSDOT, (206) 464-5878, to request an electronic CD version. A summary of the Draft EIS is available on the I-405 Corridor Program's web page: www.wsdot.wa.gov/I-405. Comments may be e-mailed to: i405@wsdot.wa.gov/I-405. Comments may be e-mailed to: wsdot.wa.gov/I-405. Comments may be e-mailed to: wsdot.wa.gov/I-405. Program, 401 2nd Avenue S., #300, Seattle, WA 98104-2887

The public is encouraged to review the Draft EIS and provide comments and suggestions regarding the impacts, alternatives and mitigation measures identified. The 45-day comment period for the Draft EIS ends October 8, 2001. Comments received will be included in the official record of the environmental review process.

Community Based Effort Oversees Decision Making

The I-405 Corridor Program is a WSDOT-sponsored, community based partnership. Decision-making is guided by three committees: a Citizen Committee of people representing a wide range of interests all along the corridor, a Steering Committee of senior level staff, and an Executive Committee of federal, state, regional and local elected and appointed officials from agencies and jurisdictions with an interest in the corridor.

The Executive Committee will review public feedback and the outcomes of the analysis from the EIS before a decision is made on a preferred alternative for I-405. A final solution will be selected this fall, based on the EIS findings and public input.